

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)



In the matter of the Design of the New Solar	)	Docket No. 06-NSHP-1
Homes Partnership	)	
	)	Notice of Staff Workshop
_____	)	RE: New Solar Homes Partnership

## **Staff Workshop on Proposed Revisions to the New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook**

California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to discuss proposed revisions to the *New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP) Guidebook*. While this is a staff workshop, Commissioners of the Energy Commission are interested in facilitating this form of public and stakeholder participation, and may attend the meeting.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2013**

1 p.m.

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street

1st Floor, Hearing Room A

Sacramento, California

Wheelchair Accessible

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™  
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### **Agenda**

The purpose of this workshop is to solicit comments from interested parties on proposed revisions to the *NSHP Guidebook* and other topics related to the NSHP program.

The anticipated revisions to be presented at the workshop encompass several aspects of the program, including the need to clarify NSHP requirements with respect to the 2013 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Standards). Other proposed revisions may include: 1) changes to the timeframe for when a solar permit must be issued, 2) changes to the incentive decline process, 3) revised incentive amounts, 4) revised incentive and system size caps, 5) revised reservation periods for virtual net metered projects, 6) revised reservation application clarification process, 7) changes to the "Solar as an Option" reservation process, 8) revised energy efficiency requirements

and processes, 9) revised requirements for leases and PPAs, 10) revisions to the reservation and payment claim processes and requirements, and 11) clarification and streamlining of the *Guidebook* language and requirements.

The workshop will also include a discussion of the following topics:

- Solar Financing Models
- Energy Efficiency and Solar Energy System Verification

## **Background**

The NSHP is part of a comprehensive statewide solar program known as the California Solar Initiative. The NSHP provides financial incentives to encourage the installation of eligible solar energy systems on new residential construction. The NSHP seeks to achieve 400 megawatts of distributed solar photovoltaic electric capacity by the end of 2016.

Since the program began in 2007, Energy Commission staff has received many comments from stakeholders to streamline the program. The proposed revisions to the *Guidebook* are intended to streamline and simplify the program. Comments received on the following discussion topics will be considered in the development of additional *Guidebook* revisions.

### *Solar Financing Models*

The *Guidebook* allows solar energy systems that are leased by an end-use customer or provide electricity to an end-use customer under a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to qualify for NSHP funding, provided certain requirements are satisfied. Several issues regarding leases and PPAs have been raised. These issues include: incentive levels and required cost documentation. During this workshop, Energy Commission staff will solicit stakeholder input on the extent of these issues and ways to address them.

Questions to be discussed include the following:

- What are the different components that enable a leased or PPA-based system on a new home, for the provider and the developer?
- What is the most appropriate NSHP incentive approach for 3<sup>rd</sup>-party owned systems?

### *Energy Efficiency and Solar Energy System Verification*

The *Guidebook* identifies the energy efficiency and solar energy system requirements and verification processes that must be satisfied for applicants to qualify for and receive funding. Energy Commission staff have received comments from stakeholders on the amount of time necessary to complete these requirements and processes and their impact on the overall project timelines. Staff is interested in stakeholder comment on ways to streamline these requirements and processes. The following are some of the questions that will be used to guide the discussion:

- Please identify steps in the energy efficiency and solar energy system verification process where there are delays. What can be done to address those delays?
- How can we streamline the NSHP program while ensuring that the energy efficiency and solar energy system requirements are met?

## Public Comment

The Energy Commission will accept oral comments during the meeting. Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding. Written comments on the proposed Guidebook revisions must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on August 16, 2013. Please include the docket number 06-NSHP-1 and indicate *Staff Workshop on the Proposed Revisions to the New Solar Homes Partnership* in the subject line. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding. Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website for the proceeding. The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and the name of the organization you represent if applicable. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please submit comments to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov) and [Le-Quyen.Nguyen@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Le-Quyen.Nguyen@energy.ca.gov) to ensure that staff receives a copy.

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 06-NSHP-1  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

## Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at [PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto:PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4489 (toll free at (800) 822-6228).

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at [lquiroz@energy.ca.gov](mailto:lquiroz@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Le-Quyen Nguyen at [Le-Quyen.Nguyen@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Le-Quyen.Nguyen@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4650.

## Remote Attendance

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

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If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

## **Availability of Documents**

Presentations for this meeting will be available online at: <http://energy.ca.gov/renewables/06-NSHP-1/index.html>

Date Online: July 26, 2013

### **Mail Lists:**

Blueprint listserv  
Buildingstandards listserv  
Efficiency listserv  
GoSolar listserv  
PVCalculator listserv  
Renewable listserv